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mittal
7/3/1964

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

A two-year National Science Foundation grant of \$31,600 has been awarded to Montana State University renewing support of research in the "Synthesis of Androgens and Estrogens by the Gonads of Wilson's Phalaropes," according to Dr. Robert Johns, MSU president.

Dr. H. Richard Fevold and Dr. E. W. Pfeiffer are directing the study of the unorthodox breeding habits of the phalarope, a bird native to Montana.

During courting the female phalarope plays the aggressive role. Although the female lays the eggs, the male builds the nest, incubates the eggs and raises the young birds, Dr. Fevold said.

Dr. Fevold and Dr. Pfeiffer are conducting their study on a bio-chemical level in hopes of understanding the phalaropes' behavior, thus leading to further knowledge of the biology of sex in higher vertebrates, including man.

The hormone testosterone is being incubated in flasks for study.

Dr. Pfeiffer has been studying the phalarope for three years. Dr. Fevold joined him on the research last fall.

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